

**Work orders for ancillary units of IPCL**

2991. Shri SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that ancillary industries of Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd. (IPCL) are not getting any order from parent company after disinvestment;
- (b) whether it is a fact that workers of those ancillary industries are likely to lose their jobs; and
- (c) if so, the action being taken by Government to save the workers' interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Impact of crude prices on import bill**

2992. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for reducing domestic fuel prices with the fallen international crude prices over past few weeks;
- (b) whether the fallen crude prices will contain the crude import bill; and
- (c) whether the low import crude prices will respite the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The decline in prices of crude oil in the international market, would certainly impact the crude oil import bill of the refineries. On the basis of this decline in international prices, Government has decided to reduce the retail selling prices (at Delhi) of petrol by Rs. 2/- per litre and that of diesel by Rs. 1/- per litre with effect from midnight of 29.11.2006 for public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs).